

BOFTNESSE

Chief, WE ATM: Chief, Italian Branch Senior Representative,

ا- الماسيد 19 August 1954

 $\mathcal{O}_{ ext{Information from HA Re Karl HAAS}}$  and Ministry of Interior

Ref: MIR-11304, [ ]-8669, OIRA-5031 (KAFOK-3700)

On 3 August 1954, Najor Oren Moffett, Assistant Hilitary Attache, brought in a note concerning Marl HAAS which, he explained, he felt would be of interest to us. He stated that the note was a paraphrase of a cable which the Military Attache had recently sent to Washington. This appears to be the basis of the information contained in first reference.

## The paraphrage is as follows:

"Ex-German SD Maj Karl Heas, said to be long-time double agent now living in Rome, is afraid that he may become involved in investigation conducted by Western Intelligence of the defection of Otto Johns Heas claims to have had contact with no less than 3 members of John's intelligence net. At least one of these persons was suspected of having had dealings with the Soviet. Reported that John, in his demunciation of Nasi infiltration of the Bonn Intelligence service, which was broadcast over the German radio at 0200 hours 24 Jul 54, mentioned the name of HAAS."

We told Moffett that we knew of HAAS as a long-time operator in Rome and were interested in his activities. We added that identification of the source of the information which Moffett was giving us might add to the picture of HAAS' contacts, and possibly throw light on the motives of whoever had brought this information to the HA's attention. We also took the opportunity to suggest to Hoffett the advantages which he hisself would derive in the way of protection from a regular check of his contacts and sources with us, and assured him that purely in the interest of the security of the MA's office, we would at all times be happy to run such checks. Since it was evident that Hoffstt did not desire to reveal his informant, we did not press further. He did state, however, that his informant was not HAAS himself, and that it was not an Italian official. He added that the informant had been in touch with the HA's office some years before but that this contact had lapsed.

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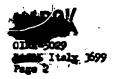


NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

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Declassified and Approved for Release by the Contral Intelligence Agency Date: 2005



4. On 11 August the MA, Colonel Damson, who had just returned to Rome, called on L Jand gave us a copy of his Top Secret report of 10 August 1954, Serial S-24-54, subject: Italian Hinistry of Interior Effort to Penetrate U.S. Intelligence in Italy. Although Headquarters may have ready and immediate access to this document in washington, we are nevertheless attaching here to a photo reproduction of the copy handed us. We expressed appreciation of the HA's courtesy in showing us this report and inquired as to whether or not be wished to identify the source of the information to us. Dasson said that he did not desire to identify the source, and that he had explicitly told Moffett not to reveal the source of this information in connection with Moffett's original.. call. He stated that the reason for this was that the informent "belonged" to one of the Italian services with whom he, Damson, believed us to be in touch. He further added that he was endeavoring to discourage contact with this informant with his own office, lest the Italians suspect that the MA was endeavoring to use one of their own agents against them. In view of this feeling on Dayson's part, we, of course, did not press for identification of his informant.

- 5. At this point, in view of the fact that BAAS was indicated as subsource of S-24-54, the recent C = cables C = 3-8653, 8625 and 8634 which, in effect, constitute a debriefing of HAAS on the part of fact that we know the HA's office to have had contact with . at: C 1919-50 (suggest C ] be queried on this point), it appeared most likely that mes the Ma's source.
- 6. We cannot, at present, properly evaluate the allegations contained in S-24-54. It is by no seems impossible that an investigation has been undertaken, and it is quite possible that Scelba, permonally, may be interested in clandestine American operations here. This we will endeavor to find out more about. Hean-while, the first question that comes to mind in reading this document is the motive behind its being given to the Hi. So far as motive spes, it may well fit into the picture of guerrilla warfare in which [ ] appears to be engaged (see CIRA-1801 (KAPOK-3586).
- On 26 July, HAZZOCCO of FOA told C = that he had been informed by one OR TOLANT of a plan initiated by SIMP to confuse or compromise MAZZOCOO's as to suggest that the approach to MAZZOCCO was a deliberate effort to raise doubts in American minds of SIFAR's purpose and good faith. \_ \_ memorandum on this conversation is being forwarded under CIRA-5031 (KAPOK-3700).

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I and his colleagues in U.S. eyes, possibly with the expectation that the information would be promptly brought to MRRE's attention. This is the first textative conditions so have reached in discussion energy resolves have. There is a more of the feeling which has developed here between Interior and MRRE, of which we do not yet have the full picture of full flavor, and which makes the feeling of which we do not yet have the full picture of full flavor, and which

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